

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 05640 131308Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----040356 131309Z /43  
P 131227Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8872

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 5640

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, MNUC, ENRG, IR  
SUBJ: US-IRAN NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT: REPROCESSING

REF: (A) TEHRAN 5438, (B) STATE 147548

1. IN ACCORDANCE INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED REF B, I CALLED ON PRIME MINISTER AMOUZEGAR AFTERNOON JUNE 13 TO DETERMINE GOI "POLITICAL LEVEL" ATTITUDE TOWARDS WASHINGTON PROPOSALS FOR BILATERAL NUCLEAR AGREEMENT. I WAS ACCOMPANIED BY DCM NAAS, WHO HAD PREVIOUSLY ALERTED AEOI CHIEF DR. ETEMAD THAT WE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO TAKE THIS MATTER TO A HIGHER LEVEL.
2. IN INTRODUCING THIS SUBJECT TO AMOUZEGAR, I STRESSED THAT OUR NEGOTIATORS HAD AGREED UPON ALL ASPECTS OF THE PROPOSED AGREEMENT EXCEPT FOR THE APPLICATION OF THE "MOST FAVORED NATION" TREATMENT TO THE CONCEPT OF REPROCESSING FUEL OF UNITED STATES ORIGIN IN THIRD COUNTRY FACILITIES. I SAID THAT THE PROBLEM WAS TO SQUARE THE PRESIDENT'S ASSURANCES TO THE SHAH CONCERNING "MOST FAVORED NATION" TREATMENT WITH THE STATUTORY REQUIREMENT THAT SUCH REPROCESSING ARRANGEMENTS BE EXAMINED ON THE BASIS OF PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES.
3. I SAID THAT WASHINGTON PROPOSED THAT WE RECONCILE THIS PROBLEM BY INSERTING A CLAUSE WHICH WOULD PERMIT IRAN TO

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TEHRAN 05640 131308Z

REPROCESS IN THIRD COUNTRIES IF ANOTHER COOPERATING STATE HAD BEEN PERMITTING SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT IN THE SAME TIME FRAME. DR. ETEMAD HAS REJECTED THIS PROPOSAL, AND HAD SUGGESTED ANOTHER FORMULATION WHICH WOULD PERMIT IRAN TO REPROCESS IF PERMISSION HAD BEEN GRANTED TO ANOTHER COOPERATING STATE IN CONNECTION WITH THE MANAGEMENT OF ITS FUEL CYCLE. WASHINGTON HAD, IN TURN, FOUND THIS UNACCEPTABLE

AND HAD ASKED ME TO TAKE THE MATTER TO "THE POLITICAL LEVEL".  
I THEN HANDED AMOUZEGAR THE TEXTS OF THE RELEVANT DRAFTS.

4. IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT AMOUZEGAR HAD BEEN BRIEFED BY ETEMAD.  
HE READ THE TEXTS FAIRLY RAPDILY AND THEN SAID HE WOULD LIKE  
TO "THINK OUT LOUD A LITTLE". HE SAID IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT  
A COUNTRY, SUCH AS JAPAN, MIGHT, BECAUSE OF CERTAIN PECULIAR  
REASONS, BE PERMITTED TO REPROCESS IN THE U.K. IRAN WOULD  
CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THIS WAS A VERY SPECIAL CASE AND WOULD  
NOT CONSTITUTE A PRECEDENT. IN ANTICIPATION OF THAT CASE, IRAN  
MIGHT BE WILLING TO SUBMIT A SIDE LETTER WITH THE AGREEMENT,  
STATING THAT THE JAPANESE EXCEPTION WOULD NOT BE VIEWED AS A  
PRECEDENT. IF, HOWEVER, THERE WERE TO BE A GREAT NUMBER OF  
EXCEPTIONS, WHICH MERELY DID NOT HAPPEN TO BE "IN THE SAME  
TIME FRAM" AS IRAN'S REQUEST, THEN HE COULD NOT AGREE THAT  
IRAN WOULD BE RECEIVING "MOST FAVORED NATION" TREATMENT.

5. AMOUZEGAR THAN ASKED WHETHER WE EXPECTED THERE TO BE  
ANY EXCEPTIONS OTHER THAN JAPAN. I SAID I FRANKLY DID NOT  
KNOW, BUT I THOUGH IT WAS CONCEIVABLE THAT OTHER COUNTRIES  
MIGHT HAVE LOCKED THEMSELVES INTO INSTALLATIONS SUCH AS TOKAI  
WHICH WOULD REQUIRE SOME ACCOMMODATION.

6. AMOUZEGAR SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO DISCUSS THIS WHOLE SUBJECT  
WITH THE SHAH, SINCE THE SHAH HAD CONDUCTED THE ORIGINAL DIS-  
CUSSIONS DIRECTLY WITH PRESIDENT CARTER. HE INDICATED THAT  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 TEHRAN 05640 131308Z

THE "TIME FRAME" CONCEPT WAS UNACCEPTABLE. HE THOUGHT, HOWEVER,  
THAT SOME PHRASES COULD BE WORKED OUT TO RECOGNIZE EXCEPTIONAL  
INSTANCES AND WOULD BE PREPARED TO RECOMMEND SUCH AN APPROACH.  
IF JAPAN WAS TO BE THE ONLY EXCEPTION, HE WOULD RECOMMEND A  
SIDE NOTE EXCHEWING THAT EXCEPTION AS A PRECEDENT. HE ASKED  
THAT I QUERY WASHINGTON WHETHER ANY EXCEPTION OTHER THAN JAPAN  
WAS CONTEMPLATED. I SAID I WOULD ASK AND WE LEFT THE MATTER  
AT THAT POINT.

7. COMMENT: IT WILL BE NOTED THAT I DID NOT RPT NOT ALLUDE  
TO THE POINT RAISED IN PARA 5 REF B WHICH WOULD MAKE OUR  
ACCEPTANCE OF THE MFN PARAGRAPH CONDITIONAL UPON GOI ACCEPTANCE  
OF THE "TIME FRAME". THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN A BONNY IDEA, BUT  
UNFORTUNATIELY WASHINGTON DID NOT RPT NOT THINK OF IT UNTIL  
AFTER THE ORIGINAL INSTRUCTIONS ACCEPTING THE MFN PARAGRAPH HAD  
BEEN CARRIED OUT. WE OBVIOUSLY CAN NOT RPT NOT INTRODUCE  
CONDITIONALITY ON AN EX POST FACTO BASIS AND STILL CONDUCT  
ETHICAL NEGOTIATIONS. I TRUST THEREFORE, THAT THIS PLOY  
WILL NOT RPT NOT BE AGAIN REPEATED IN ANY INSTRUCTIONS TO  
THIS EMBASSY.

8. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE PROVIDE REPLY SOONEST TO

AMOUZEGAR'S QUERY WHETHER JAPAN IS THE ONLY EXCEPTION TO  
THE THIRD COUNTRY REPROCESSING WHICH IS INTENDED. IF SO,  
INDICATE WHETHER THE "SIDE NOTE" PROPOSAL HE HAS SUGGESTED  
WOULD MEET OUR PROBLEM. IF NOT, PLEASE PROVIDE SOME IMAGINATIVE  
LANGUAGE WHICH WILL EMBRACE THE CONCEPT HE SUGGESTS. IT  
SHOULD BE CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THAT THE "TIME FRAME" IDEA  
IS DEAD AT THE "POLITICAL LEVEL", BUT THAT AMOUZEGAR IS  
PREPARED TO OFFER A WAY OUT OF OUR IMPASSE PROVIDED IT IS  
CONSISTENT WITH THE PRESIDENT'S ASSURANCE ON "MOST FAVORED  
NATION" TREATMENT.  
SULLIVAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978TEHRAN05640  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780246-0940  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** TEHRAN  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780663/aaaaccnm.tel  
**Line Count:** 126  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 73b5bc89-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 78 TEHRAN 5438, 78 STATE 147548  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 jun 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2366885  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** US-IRAN NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT: REPROCESSING  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MNUC, ENRG, IR, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/73b5bc89-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014